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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT  
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OCT 18 2002

Applicants: G. Gundling, et al.

Group Art No.: 1634

Application No.: 09/492,213

Examiner: B. Sisson

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Filed: January 27, 2000

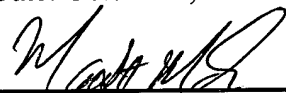
Title: A METHOD OF REDUCING  
CONTAMINATION IN AN  
ASSAY VESSEL

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the:

Assistant Commissioner for patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Attorney Docket: 6416.US.P1

Date: October 8, 2002

  
Matthew Mader Date

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**


With regard to the application identified above, Applicants hereby petition the Assistant Commissioner for Patents to extend the period for response to the Office Action mailed on April 9, 2002, for three months from July 9, 2002 to October 9, 2002. Please charge Deposit Account No. 01-0025 in the amount of \$920.00 for the associated extension fee. Any deficiency or overpayment should be charged or credited, respectively, to the above numbered deposit account. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: October 8, 2002

Respectfully submitted,  
G. Gundling, *et al.*



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